

From: Ballotpedia updates@info.ballotpedia.org
Subject: Hall Pass: Your Ticket to Understanding School Board Politics, Edition #70
Date: July 26, 2023 at 4:03 PM
To: ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us

B

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Ballotpedia's Hall Pass

Keeping you up to date on school board politics and education policy

Welcome to Hall Pass

July 26, 2023

Welcome to *Hall Pass*, a newsletter written to keep you plugged into the conversations driving school board politics and governance.

In today's edition, you'll find:

- On the issues: The debate over curating school libraries
- Share candidate endorsements with us!
- School board filing deadlines, election results, and recall certifications
- Twelve states this year have introduced bills changing school board election dates
- Extracurricular: education news from around the web
- Candidate Connection survey

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On the issues: The debate over curating school libraries

In this section, we curate reporting, analysis, and commentary on the issues school board members deliberate when they set out to offer the best education possible in their district.

Today, we're going to examine perspectives on an open letter former President Barack Obama (D) wrote to librarians.

Obama writes that decisions to remove books from libraries are "profoundly misguided, and contrary to what has made this country great." Obama says controversial books should be kept in libraries to promote and allow children to engage with more diverse perspectives and viewpoints and to see more diverse representation in the books they read.

The Editors at *National Review* write that school libraries are not suppressing ideas, perspectives, or diverse representation. Instead, the editors say that some sexual reading content is not appropriate for children of certain ages and argue that states, school boards, and other local officials should be able to make appropriate choices with the input of parents.

Thank You to America's Librarians for Protecting Our Freedom to Read | Barack Obama, *Medium*

"In any democracy, the free exchange of ideas is an important part of making sure that citizens are informed, engaged and feel like their perspectives matter... Today, some of the books that shaped my life — and the lives of so many others — are being challenged by people who disagree with certain ideas or perspectives. It's no coincidence that these 'banned books' are often written by or feature people of color, indigenous people, and members of the LGBTQ+ community — though there have also been unfortunate instances in which books by conservative authors or books containing 'triggering' words or scenes have been targets for removal. Either way, the impulse seems to be to silence, rather than engage, rebut, learn from or seek to understand views that don't fit our own. I believe such an approach is profoundly misguided, and contrary to what has made this country great. As I've said before, not only is it important for young people from all walks of life to see themselves represented in the pages of books, but it's also important for all of us to engage with different ideas and points of view."

What Obama's Letter to Libraries Leaves Out | The Editors, *National Review*

"At first glance, the recent criticism that Barack Obama leveled against these

At first glance, the recent criticism that Barack Obama leveled against those in America who are supposedly ‘banning’ books might sound reasonable — if you overlook the characteristic Obama touches of generalities, obfuscations, and euphemisms. ... Actually banning books is a terrible thing. And yet, when one digs into the controversies that have inspired Obama’s missive, one quickly discovers that it is not so much that ‘ideas’ and ‘perspectives’ are being suppressed in America as that age-inappropriate material is being removed from its schools and, in some cases, from the children’s sections of public libraries. While there is a fair argument about the threshold for a book to be removed from a school library (e.g., objections from one parent should not be sufficient), it is telling that Obama mentions none of the controversies surrounding sexually explicit materials being on offer to children. ... Because public schools are just that — public — they must remain responsive to the states, school boards, and parents who run them. Because neither time nor space nor funds are unlimited, they will always exclude some books whenever they choose to include others.”

Share candidate endorsements with us!

As part of our goal to solve the [ballot information problem](#), Ballotpedia is gathering information about school board candidate endorsements. The ballot information gap widens the further down the ballot you go, and is worst for the more than 500,000 local offices nationwide, such as school boards or special districts. Endorsements can help voters know more about their candidates and what they stand for.

Do you know of an individual or group that has endorsed a candidate in your district?

Click [here](#) to respond!

School board filing deadlines, election results, and recall certifications

Ballotpedia has historically covered school board elections in about 500 of the country’s largest districts. We’re gradually expanding the number we cover with our eye on the more than 13,000 districts with elected school

cover with our eye on the more than 13,000 districts with elected school boards.

Upcoming school board elections

Washington

Washington is holding school board primary elections on **Aug. 1**. We're covering elections in the following districts:

- [Cheney School District](#)
- [Lake Washington School District](#)
- [Seattle Public Schools](#)
- [Spokane Public Schools](#)

Kansas

Three seats on the Wichita Public Schools school board are up for election on Nov. 7. A primary is scheduled **Aug. 1** for the At-Large seat, but primaries for Districts 3 and 4 were canceled.

- [Wichita Public Schools](#)

Twelve states this year have introduced bills changing school board election dates

In an earlier edition of this newsletter, [we looked at](#) our research on the timing of school board elections across the country. In half of states, school board elections are most commonly held [off-cycle](#) from federal elections—in odd-numbered years or on non-November dates.

According to [our database](#), 12 states have considered 15 bills this year that modify school board election dates to coincide with other local or statewide elections.

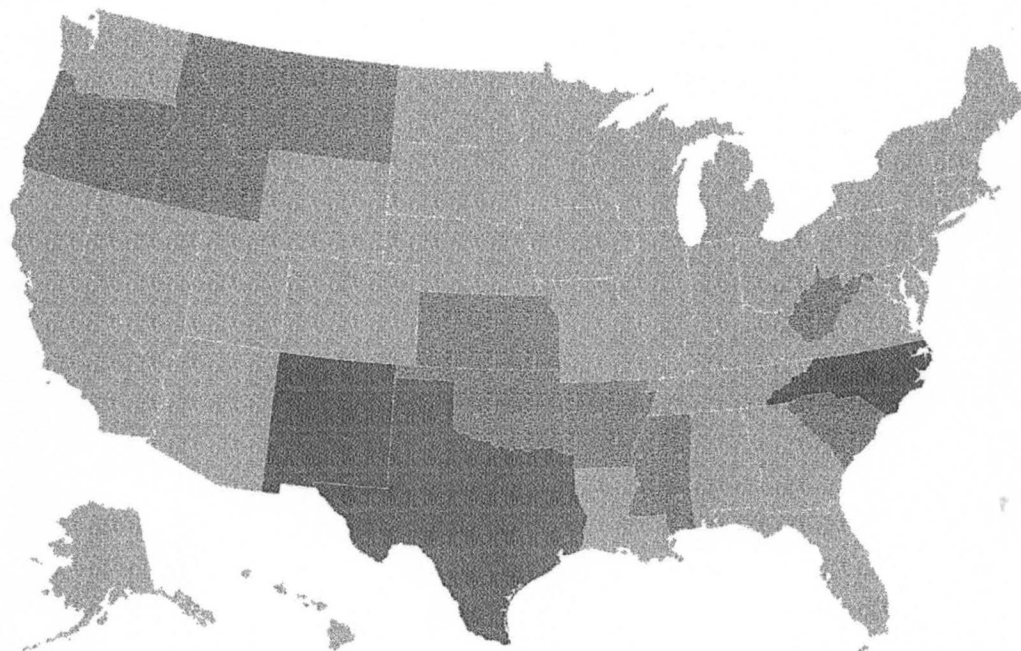
As of this writing, legislators in three of those states have passed bills changing—or authorizing changes to—school board election dates. Lawmakers in **Texas** ([SB1131](#)) authorized districts of a certain size and location to move their elections to the November general election. **North Carolina** ([H88](#)) and **New Mexico** ([SB335](#)) changed dates in specific jurisdictions.

Republicans sponsored nine of those 15 bills, while Democrats sponsored three. The remaining three were introduced by committees or without sponsorship.

In 2022, only two states considered bills affecting school board election dates. Republicans sponsored both of them.

States where legislators introduced bills that would change school board election dates, 2023

■ Enacted ■ Introduced



Data is current as of July 24, 2023

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Election timing is not an abstract concern. According to UC Berkeley Professor Sarah Anzia, election timing can influence the number of voters who cast ballots: “When city elections are held on-cycle—meaning on the same day as national and state elections—most people who turn out to vote for president or governor will vote in the city races as well. But many of these same people won’t bother to vote in city races held at other times.”

Oklahoma lawmakers introduced more bills this year that would change school board election dates than any other state—21% of all those introduced. One bill, SB244, would have changed school board election dates to the November general election. The Senate, where Republicans hold a 40-8 majority, passed the bill 31-15 in March, but it died in committee in the

House.

The Oklahoma State School Boards Association (OSSBA) opposed SB244, writing, “General election ballots are busy, with statewide, judicial, legislative races and state questions, and voters face a barrage of election-related information. School board elections are important, but it will be difficult for school board candidates to capture the attention of voters when they’re competing for time and attention against other elections and ballot measures.”

State Sen. David Bullard (R), who sponsored the bill, said, “You have to ask yourself the question, ‘Why would you want to have an election and keep an election in a time in a place of their choosing where people won’t show up?’ The kingdom-building has to stop.”

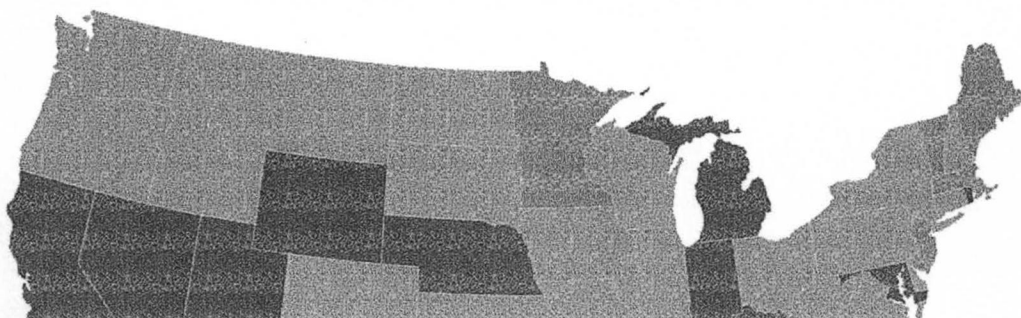
Here’s what school board election timing looks like across the country:

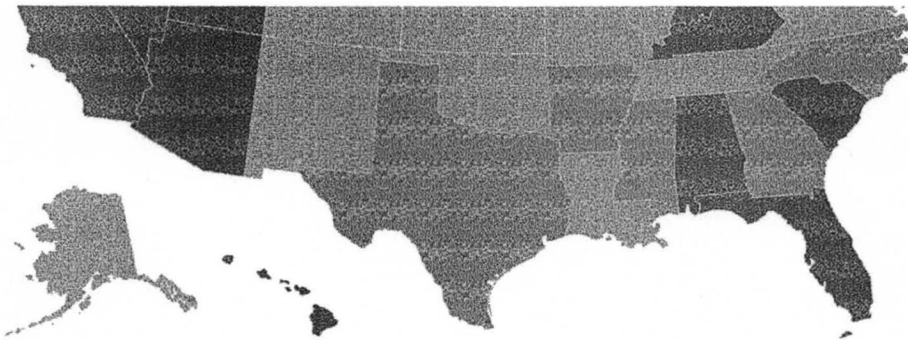
- 25 states have school board elections that are mostly held in odd-numbered years or non-November dates
 - 10 of those states have school board elections that are generally held on election dates in November of odd-numbered years.
 - 15 of those states have school board elections generally held on election dates that are not in November.
- 14 states have school board elections that are mostly held in November of even-numbered years, corresponding with federal elections.
- 11 states either do not have laws or common practices that determine a specific school board election date or have varying school board election dates.
- Hawaii has a single appointed school board.

School board elections: on cycle vs off cycle

This map shows whether most school board elections in the state are held on cycle (November of even-numbered years) or off cycle. Off-cycle elections include non-November election dates and odd-year election dates. Exceptions or variances exist in nearly all of the states.

■ Appointed statewide board ■ Mostly off cycle ■ Mostly on cycle ■ Varies/Unknown





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In total, including legislation dealing with non-school board elections, state legislators have introduced 42 bills consolidating election dates this year—compared to 18 bills in 2022.

In addition to bills changing school board election dates, other bills would eliminate odd-year elections, either statewide or for specific levels of government. Three states considered doing so in 2022, while five states have active legislation that would do so this year. These states are Idaho, Missouri, Montana, New York and North Carolina.

Eight of the 42 bills introduced this year have been enacted so far.

Five states—Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Jersey, and Virginia—hold off-year state elections for governor and other executive offices. With the exception of Kentucky, all of these states also hold off-year state legislative elections, while Wisconsin also elects at least some state executive offices in off-years.

You can learn more about legislation affecting election dates in your state through our free [Legislation Tracker](#).

Extracurricular: education news from around the web

This section contains links to recent education-related articles from around the internet. If you know of a story we should be reading, reply to this email to share it with us!

- [3 reasons creativity is essential for the future of education](#) | eSchool News

- [Pa.'s latest bid to regulate cyber charter schools would lower tuition payments, boost transparency | Spotlight PA](#)
- [California Politics: Newsom's war with a conservative school board | Los Angeles Times](#)
- [What to know about Virginia's transgender student model policies | The Washington Post](#)
- [North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper vetoes another charter school oversight bill | Killeen Daily Herald](#)
- [How to Enact an AI Policy in Your K-12 Schools | EdTech](#)
- [Analysis: Idaho schools chief puts a K-12 funding formula rewrite on a fast track | Idaho Capital Sun](#)

Candidate Connection survey



Everyone deserves to know their candidates. However, we know it can be hard for voters to find information about their candidates, especially for local offices such as school boards. That's why we created **Candidate Connection**—a survey designed to help candidates tell voters about their campaigns, their issues, and so much more.

If you're a school board candidate or incumbent, click [here to take the survey](#). And if you're not running for school board, but there is an election in your community this year, [share the link with the candidates](#) and urge them to take the survey!

The survey contains over 30 questions, and you can choose the ones you feel will best represent your views to voters. **If you complete the survey, a box with your answers will display on your Ballotpedia profile.** Your responses will also appear in our [sample ballot](#).

In the 2020 election cycle, **4,745** candidates completed the survey.

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From: Ballotpedia updates@info.ballotpedia.org
Subject: Hall Pass: Your Ticket to Understanding School Board Politics, Edition #71
Date: August 2, 2023 at 4:04 PM
To: ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us

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August 02, 2023

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On the issues

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The debate over Florida's Black history curriculum standards

The Florida Board of Education on July 19 passed updated curriculum standards. Debate over the standards has centered on language in the Black history component that says schools should teach “how slaves developed skills which, in some instances, could be applied for their personal benefit.” Jamelle Bouie writes that the phrasing of the curricular standards suggests that Black people benefited from slavery. Bouie says few slaves learned useful skills during their enslavement and says the portions of the Florida standards related to the development of skills deemphasizes the experiences of the majority who were not fortunate enough to gain useful experience.

Rich Lowry writes that the Florida standards do not say that slaves benefited from slavery. Instead, Lowry says the standards related to slaves who developed skills emphasize the resilience and strength of slaves despite their oppression.

Ron DeSantis and the State Where History Goes to Die | Jamelle Bouie, *New York Times*

“The good-faith explanation for this language, if you’re inclined to be generous, is that the authors wanted to emphasize the agency and skill of the enslaved, whose labor fueled large parts of the American economy in the decades before Emancipation. It’s an important point that you can also find in the College Board’s Advanced Placement class in African American studies. ‘In addition to agricultural work, enslaved people learned specialized trades and worked as painters, carpenters, tailors, musicians and healers in the North and South,’ the A.P. guidelines state. ‘Once free, African Americans used these skills to provide for themselves and others.’ Similar points, yes, but the language isn’t quite the same. In addition to using the term ‘enslaved’ rather than ‘slave’ — a linguistic shift that continues to be a subject of real debate — the language for the A.P. curriculum emphasizes that Black Americans could use these skills only after Emancipation. This is key. Slaves were owned as chattel by other human beings who stole their freedom, labor and bodily autonomy. To say that any more than a fortunate few could ‘parlay’ their skills into anything that might improve their lives is to spin a fiction.”

The Left Will Say Anything about Florida | Rich Lowry, *National Review*

"This is not the first or second thing, or even the 19th, that you'd want students to learn about slavery, but it is also indisputably true and part of the record. No one is saying the enslaved "benefited" from slavery. It's not an endorsement of slavery to point out that slaves looked for every crack in the system to try to improve themselves and gain some autonomy — rather, it's an endorsement of the pluck, initiative, and resilience of an oppressed people operating in the worst of circumstances. We are supposed to believe that enslaved African Americans strained against their awful condition in every way (as they actually did) — learning to read, protecting their family life, worshipping on their own, defying their masters when they could, creating an elaborate system of escape — but they never, ever learned a skill to their own benefit. This is, of course, nonsense. Learning skills was another aspect of African-American agency, which was never wiped out no matter how much their oppressors tried to make it so. ... Was slavery good for these men? Absolutely not. The point is what they accomplished despite slavery, not because of it."

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School board update: filing deadlines, election results, and recall certifications

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Upcoming school board elections

Washington

Washington held school board primary elections in the following districts on **Aug. 1**:

- [Cheney School District](#)
- [Lake Washington School District](#)
- [Seattle Public Schools](#)
- [Spokane Public Schools](#)

Also on **Aug. 1**, residents voted in a recall election against three of the five members of the [Richland School District](#) school board—Audra Byrd, Semi Bird, and Kari Williams. As of this writing, unofficial results show the “yes” votes—as in “yes” to remove from office—for all three sitting around 55-56%. Washington uses mail-in ballots, and the county is scheduled to certify the results on Aug. 15.

Recall supporters said that the board members violated the Open Public Meetings Act; violated district policies, procedures, and code of ethics; and voted to make masks optional while a statewide mask requirement was in place. All three board members denied any wrongdoing.

One board member, Semi Bird, is running as a Republican candidate for governor in 2024.

Click [here](#) to read more about this recall. You can read our 2023 mid-year recall report, which includes data on school board recalls efforts, [here](#).

Kansas

Three seats on the Wichita Public Schools school board are up for election on Nov. 7. A primary election occurred on **Aug. 1** for the At-Large seat. Primaries for Districts 3 and 4 were canceled.

- [Wichita Public Schools](#)

Idaho

Recall elections against Zone 4 representative [Keith Rutledge](#) and Zone 2 representative [Susan Brown](#), members of the West Bonner County School District school board in Idaho, are being held on **Aug. 29**. The recall effort began when the board voted 3-1 to reject curriculum it had previously endorsed because of concerns about social emotional learning. Click [here](#) to read the recall petitions and Rutledge's and Brown's responses.

Three members of the Temecula Valley Unified School District face recall effort after voting to reject social studies curriculum

Three members of the Temecula Valley Unified School District Board of Education are facing a recall effort from [One Temecula Valley Political Action Committee](#), an organization that says it was formed "in response to a very real and dangerous threat to local governance posed by political and religious extremist views." The recall effort comes less than a month after the board members voted against adopting a textbook for elementary school students. The vote garnered attention across the state and country, including from California Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) and other state officials.

Temecula Valley Unified School District is the [32nd largest school district](#) in California, with an estimated enrollment of about 28,000 students.

According to our database, there was an average of 34 recall efforts against an average of 80 school board members each year between 2009 and 2022. A total of 19.6% of the school board members included in the efforts faced recall elections, and 10% of school board members were removed from office. So far in 2023, we've tracked 36 efforts against 66 officials. Click [here](#) to see more of the school board recall elections we've covered.

On May 22, the Temecula Valley Unified School District board voted 3-2 against adopting a new social studies textbook for use in the district's [18 elementary schools](#). The textbook, published by the Teachers Curriculum Institute (TCI), is [one of four](#) supported by the State Board of Education. Board members Joseph Komrosky, Jennifer Wiersma, and Danny Gonzalez voted against adopting the curriculum, while Allison Barclay and Steven Schwartz voted in favor of doing so.

Komrosky and Gonzalez said they did not agree with the mentions of Harvey Milk in the textbook's supplemental materials. They both called Milk a pedophile in reference to a report that Milk had a relationship with a 16-year-old when he was 33.

Wiersma said the process of choosing a textbook did not have enough input from parents, citing California Education Code § 51100, which states: "Family and school collaborative efforts are most effective when they involve parents and guardians in a variety of roles at all grade levels, from preschool through high school."

Weirsma also said: "When I look at the TCI [Teachers Curriculum Institute] curriculum, I don't see American exceptionalism. I don't see all the things we need to see. We are going to hit the standards, but if we are totally going to utilize TCI, we need to talk about bias. I don't see a fair and balanced viewpoint. I don't see the civics."

The district had previously been using a textbook that was out of compliance with the FAIR Act, a 2011 state law requiring districts to teach the history of, among other subjects, "Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender Americans."

The One Temecula Valley Political Action Committee PAC served the three members on June 13. The PAC said: "We understand that the chaos created by these board members has caused concern and frustration within our community. Therefore, we are taking action to ensure that our schools can move forward in a positive direction."

Recall supporters must collect signatures equal to 10% to 30% of registered voters depending on the jurisdiction's population and have 40 to 160 days to do so depending on the size of the jurisdiction.

On June 7, Newsom and Attorney General Rob Bonta (D) issued a statement asking the board for more information about why they rejected the textbook. Newsom said, "California is closely watching the actions of malicious actors seeking to ban books, whitewash history, and demonize the LGBTQ+ community in Temecula and across the state. If the law is violated, there will be repercussions."

The board reviewed the textbooks again on July 18 and again voted 3-2 to reject them. After the second vote, Newsom announced the state would fine the district \$1.5 million for violating state law and send it copies of the textbook. charging an additional \$1.6 million to cover shipping.

On July 21, the board voted 4-0 to approve the new curriculum. The vote also postponed one lesson for fourth graders pending further review. Wiersma and Komrosky voted with the other members of the board to approve the curriculum. Gonzalez was absent.

Gonzalez, Wiersma, and Komrosky were elected to four-year terms on the board in November 2022. The Inland Empire Family PAC, which says its goal is to “support conservative candidates who will stand for parental rights,” endorsed all three board members. In December, the board voted 3-2 to ban the teaching of Critical Race Theory (CRT) in the district, a decision that prompted high school students in the district’s schools to walk out of class.

Newsom has backed Assembly Bill 1078 (AB 1078), a bill that would require a two-thirds vote for school boards to reject existing curriculum or books. State Rep. Corey Jackson (D) sponsored AB 1078, saying: “AB 1078 is a necessary response to protect our children’s access to diverse perspectives, encourage critical thinking, and promote inclusivity in our schools.”

AB 1078 passed the state Assembly 62-16 (with two absences) on June 30 and is now before the Senate.

Wiersma said, “If AB 1078 were to become law, it would use bullying techniques to threaten trustees who make good, but unpopular decisions, for their schools; this is how a democratic republic works.”

The California School Boards Association also opposes AB 1078. Carlos Machado, a legislative advocate for the organization, said, “We think that this is going in the wrong direction and could eventually hurt the district, its programs, employees and the students that are served by the district by withholding funds from the district.”

You can learn more about the recall attempt against the three Temecula Valley Unified School District board members here.

Extracurricular: education news from around the web

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the internet. If you know of a story we should be reading, reply to this email to share it with us!

- [D.C. public schools slashed tech budget ahead of new school year | The Washington Post](#)
- [His job is helping small California school districts with their unique needs | EdSource](#)
- [The Surprising Thing That Gets Students to Stick With AP Courses | Education Week](#)
- [A Hearing on Learning Loss and a Preview of the Election Battle to Come | The 74](#)
- [Florida to vote on reinstating partisan school board elections | Alligator](#)
- [First religious charter school in the US faces legal challenge | The Hill](#)
- [These two Utah school districts took opposite paths when the pandemic hit | The Salt Lake Tribune](#)
- [Pennsylvania looks to new school funding formula, but the timeline is unclear | WESA](#)

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From: Susan Weston spweston@gmail.com
Subject: Requesting clear book removal policy
Date: August 13, 2023 at 1:27 PM
To: ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us

SW

Dear Mrs. Elliott:

Thank you for stepping up to serve on the Boyle School Board, and I respectfully urge your Board to set written public policy on how your school libraries will respond to recent state legislation.

I'm a Danville resident, but I'm a Kentucky citizen concerned about students and schools all over the commonwealth. I'm writing in that capacity.

A book purge has been underway. In the last few months, more than 250 books have been removed from libraries in your school system, including some purchased within the last year. Below my signature, I'm attaching the lists for Junction City Elementary, Boyle Middle, and Boyle High. My lists are based on 201 pages your district provide in response to an open records request.

The titles and purchase dates make it clear that the removals have been no ordinary tidying up. A set of topics are being eliminated. On those issues, books are being eliminated not only based on main topics, but based on brief mention as part of accurate biographies.

Other Kentucky districts are not stripping down their libraries. What has happened in Boyle is more extreme than in neighboring districts. There are other highly-ranked school systems that Boyle has been challenging for state statewide prestige—and they are not doing anything this radical.

No law requires these removals. SB 150 and SB 5 do not call for wide book removals, and they certainly do not require giving up hundreds of valuable texts the Boyle County Schools acquired for student use. I've attached an analysis of the new statutes along with copies of those laws. Your district can comply fully with the law without doing this harm to your libraries.

Please, keep moving forward building a district known for impressive commitment to learning and impressive results for students. Please, give your community and those in neighboring communities a public statement on when and why Boyle will remove books from its libraries.

Sincerely,

Susan Perkins Weston

Susan Weston
859/583-3308

"Ours is the vision and ours the growing reality of a great society in which the accidents of race and color, parentage and poverty, location and geography, will not be allowed to dim the light of human hope and to cripple the possibilities of human growth."

—Governor Ned Breathitt of Kentucky, 1964

NewKyLawandLibraries.pdf
121 KB



BoyleHigh.RemoveBooks.pdf
259 KB



BoyleMiddle.RemovedBooks.pdf



JunctionElem.RemovedBooks.pdf



70 KB

From: Claire O'Quin ctoquin@gmail.com
Subject: Concerns regarding book removal in Boyle County Schools
Date: August 15, 2023 at 6:09 AM
To: ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us



Dear Ms. Elliott,

I am writing to you because as a parent with a child in the school district, I was extremely disappointed to hear that Boyle County Schools has made the decision to remove books from school libraries in response to SB 150. While I understand the difficult position that school districts have been put in as a result of this bill being passed, there is nothing in the law, nor has there been a directive from the Kentucky Department of Education that requires districts to take such extreme measures. It is upsetting to me to think my child is attending school in a district that thinks book banning is appropriate. I am asking that the school board reconsider this action.

Thank you,
Claire O'Quin

From: MB Touchstone mbtouchstone@gmail.com
Subject: Reading is Essential
Date: August 15, 2023 at 12:54 PM
To: ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us



Ms. Elliott,

Thank you so much for serving on Boyle County's Board of Education. I appreciate that in this day and age, the post can be challenging. I can also appreciate how difficult it must be for any board member to be asked to adopt policies that will be harmful to some students. As the parent of a transgendered adult and an active member of this community, I must ask that you keep our marginalized children in mind as you implement policies particularly regarding access to school and classroom libraries.

Since SB 150 does not call for removal of library books, I implore you not to do so. Just say "no". I am the mother of 3 and grandmother of 5; I know it is very difficult to get some children to read. I believe reading is the gateway to learning and we just don't know which book will trigger a lifelong love of reading for a child. Will it be the picture book depicting a child with 2 mommies or a book about the world's greatest sculptures? Let's not limit opportunities for our children to learn.

I am so proud of the quality of education that has been provided by the Boyle County schools. Let's not falter now. Please reconsider your decision to decommission books in our schools.

Warmest regards,
Mary Beth Touchstone

From: Lois Quilligan lois.quilligan@gmail.com

Subject: Book Removal

Date: August 15, 2023 at 1:49 PM

To: jennifer.newby@boyle.kyschools.us, jesse.johnson@boyle.kyschools.us, ruthann.elliott@boyle.kyschools.us,
steve.tamme@boyle.kyschools.us, laura.weddle@boyle.kyschools.us



Dear Boyle County School Board,

I'm a Boyle County resident and my children graduated from Boyle County High School. I've watched with interest in the last decade as the school district has become one of the best school systems in the Commonwealth. Boyle County Schools have earned respect and prestige for educational gains, sports successes, and arts accomplishments. We are the district everyone else looks up to.

Knowing how hard you have worked to attain this success I was taken aback to learn about the removal of books from the school libraries this summer. That is the antithesis of "best practice," and especially when you have removed all the books on one specific topic. Research shows that good school libraries create student success. Why would you move in the opposite direction?

I filed an Open Records Request and received a printed copy of the books removed. It is my understanding that to remove a book from a school library there must be a complaint, and a review of the book, and a decision made about each book removed. When did this process happen and where are the records?

Please let me know how you met the criteria for removing each book, and why this negative change was taken on behalf of our district. It is not in keeping with the Boyle County Schools reputation for excellence.

Sincerely,

Lois Quilligan